



Department of Highways District 9

**For Immediate Release
Oct. 24, 2011**

Contact: Allen Blair
Allen.Blair@ky.gov
606-845-2551
606-748-3716

Engineers to host second public meeting on redesign of KY 32 in Rowan and Elliott counties

Meeting will feature maps of alternatives

FLEMINGSBURG, Ky. – How future motorists travel from Morehead to Sandy Hook will depend greatly on what the public says during a Kentucky Transportation Cabinet meeting next week.

At that meeting, set for 5-7 p.m. Oct. 27 at the Elliott County High School gymnasium in Sandy Hook, the public can view maps tracing six proposed routes for rebuilding 14 miles of KY 32 in Rowan and Elliott counties and can make comments about each alternative.

While the alternatives generally follow the KY 32 corridor, each takes a slightly different path – from cutting through existing curves or bypassing them north or south, to falling in line with the existing roadway in some places.

The next step is to narrow those alternatives down to one preferred route to advance through the design phase of the project, said Darrin Eldridge, Kentucky Department of Highways District 9 project development branch engineer.

“We want as many people as possible to attend the public meeting, let us know what they think, and help us make that decision,” Eldridge said. “It’s an important step in the process to improve the highway’s safety.”

The meeting, which will follow an open house format, will include an introductory video, displays of the six roadway designs superimposed on aerial photos, and written information detailing the benefits and impacts of each alternative. Residents, motorists and other roadway users will be provided with questionnaires.

Throughout the meeting, Transportation Cabinet personnel and engineering staff will be available to explain the alternatives and answer questions about the project.

Information is available online through District 9’s web site, which can be accessed at <http://transportation.ky.gov/district-9>, and includes design descriptions and an interactive PDF file that allows users to view each roadway alternative. Because of the amount of

information that will be presented at the public meeting, attendees are encouraged to review online materials beforehand. Also, a help desk on using the Transportation Cabinet's online resources will be available during the meeting.

The KY 32 redesign project began in 2007 with a \$300,000 planning study of the state route from Elliottville in Rowan County to its junction with KY 7 at Newfoundland in Elliott County.

Since then, engineers have been analyzing data and have held meetings with local officials, stakeholders and the general public. In November 2009, a summary of planning study findings was published that proposed a mile-wide corridor within which alternative alignments could be developed.

The project entered the design phase earlier this year when the Transportation Cabinet awarded URS Corporation a \$2.1 million contract to engineer specific highway improvements within that corridor. The Oct. 27 public meeting, and an earlier one held in February, is part of that design contract.

###

Find more information about Department of Highways District 9 activities online at <http://transportation.ky.gov/district-9>, or keep up to date via Twitter at <http://twitter.com/KYTCDistrict9> or via Facebook at <http://facebook.com/KYTCDistrict9>.



Scan with your mobile phone's QR Code app to go directly to the KY 32 project page online!